FILED

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

FEB 2.3 2015

IN THE

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO ALBUQUERQUE - DIVISION

MATTHEW J. DYKMAN CLERK

RICHARD TAFOYA,

Petitioner.

٧.

Case No.#1:11-CR-02546-003(JAP)

UNTIED STATES OF AMERICA,
Respondent.

PETITIONER'S MOTION TO MODIFY SENTENCE PURSUANT TO THE TWO-LEVEL REDUCTION AMENDMENT 782 GIVEN RETROACTIVE EFFECT JULY 18, 2014

NOW COMES Petitioner, Richard Tafoya, proceeding pro se, and respectfully moves this Honorable Court pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 3582(c)(2), to modify his sentence pursuant to the recently enacted two-level reduction ("Amendment 782"), made retroactively effective by the Sentencing Commission July 18, 2014.

STANDARD OF REVIEW

Petitioner request a liberal construction of the pleadings. See Haines v. Kerner, 404 U.S. 519 (1972). This Court retains the inherent power to apply the proper construction of governing law. Kamen v. Kemper Financial Services, Inc., 500 U.S. 90 (1991).

Petitioner assumes that the Court is familiar with the facts of his case. Therefore, Petitioner will dispense with such formalities.

LEGAL DISCUSSION

- 1.) On September 27, 2011, petitioner was indicted in the District of New Mexico, Albuquerque division, on the above indictment.
- 2.) On January 24, 2012 petitioner entered a guilty plea on Counts 1,8 and 11of the indictment.
- a.) Count 1 Conspiracy to Violate (Meth), 21 U.S.C. Sect. 841(b)(1)(A) & 846:
- b.) Count 8 Use of a Telephone to Facilitate a Drug Trafficking Offense, 21 U.S.C. Sect. 843(b); and
- c.) Count 11 Use of a Telephone to Facilitate a Drug Trafficking Offense, 21 U.S.C. Sect. 843(b).
- 3.) Petitioner was sentenced on May 13, 2013, Judge Parker sentenced petitioner as follows:

Count 1......60 months;

Count 8...... 60 months (concurrent); and

Count 11.....60 months (concurrent).

said terms to run consecutively to any dischared term of imprisonment in case No. 1:08CR00822-003WJ.

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- 4.) Counts 8 and 11 were order to run concurrent with Count 1. All other charges were dismissed.
- 5.) The Court adopted the PSR at sentencing on May 16, 2013. Petitioner was ultimately sentenced pursuant to the 2012 amended Sentencing Guidelines.
- 6.) On July 18, 2014, the United States Sentencing Commission voted to make the two-level reduction retroactive. Contrary to Amendments 706 and 750, the Sentencing Commission also voted to make Amendment 782 retroactively applicable to all drug types. Amendment 782 was given retroactive effect on November 1, 2014. However, the Sentencing Commission previously voted that no relief will be rendered as a result of the amendment until November 1, 2015.
- 7.) In the instant proceeding, the Court determined Petitioner to be at a total offense level of 23, and a Criminal History Category ("CHC") of IV, with a sentencing guideline range of 70 to 87 months imprisonment. Petitioner was ultimately sentenced to 79 months imprisonment.
- 8.) In light of the recently enacted two-level reduction, petitioner's new total offense level is 21, CHC IV, with a sentencing guideline range of 57 to 71 months of imprisonment. Given this relevance, petitioner is presently eligible for a "proportional reduction"
- 9.) As a result of the two-level reduction's retroactive application, petitioner's original sentence has a possibility of being substantially lowered by 50 percent from the low-end of the amended guideline range (the commission calls this a "Proportional Reduction")
- 10.) All crack sentences were "based on" the crack guideline's sentencing ranges because those ranges represented the starting point of every sentencing pre-and post-Booker, even where the defendant was ultimately sentenced for multiple types of controlled substances.
- 11.) Nonetheless, Section 3582(c)(2) requires sentencing courts to consider all applicable 18 U.S.C. 3553(a) factors. In Gall, the Supreme Court said that "the extent of the difference between a particular sentence and the recommended Guidelines range is surely relevant" to a sentencing decisions. Gall v. United States, 128 s. Ct. 591 (2007).
- 12.) Inasmuch as Petitioner's "pre-" 3553(a) factors were incorporated into his initial sentence, obviously, no post-sentencing factors were considered.
- 13.) Prior to Amendment 782, there was no opportunity for the Court to factor in petitioner's "post-sentencing conduct". Given this relevance, now this Honorable Court is free under 3582(c)(2) to consider 3553(a) factors in deciding whether the advisory sentence is "sufficient but not greater than necessary to satisfy the purposes of sentencing." Gall.
- 14.) In the instant case, since petitioner's incarceration in 2011, he has maintained and exhibited an amiable attitude with staff and inmates alike within the facilities he has been housed. In addition, petitioner has completed twenty-six (26) institutional programs while maintaining clear conduct his entire incarceration. Moreover, petitioner is presently employed within the Education Department as a GED Tutor for Spanish and English speaking inmates alike. See Inmate Education Data Transcript, Exhibit A.
- 15.) Through Amendment 782, the Sentencing Commission lowered the sentencing guideline ranges for all drug types by two offense levels. See USSG 1B1.10. The commentary accompanying 1B1.10 permits the Court to consider post-sentencing conduct in whether a reduction in the defendant's term of imprisonment is warranted. U.S.S.G. 1B1.10, cmt. (n.1)(B)(ii)-(iii). In this regard, the Court may, but is not required to, consider a defendant's post-sentencing conduct. Id.
- 16.) A district court may modify a defendant's sentence after judgment has been entered only if modification is permitted by statute. United States v. Ross, 245 F.3d 577, 586 (6th Cir. 2001). Thus, modification is permitted by 18 U.S.C. 3582(c)(2) when the sentencing range for the offense for which the defendant was sentenced has been subsequently lowered:
- "[I]n the case of a defendant who has been sentenced to a term of imprisonment based on a sentencing range that has subsequently been lowered by the Sentencing Commission . . . the court may reduce the term of imprisonment, after considering the factors set forth in section 3553(a) to the extent that they are applicable, if such a reduction is consistent with applicable policy statements issued by the Sentencing Commission." U.S.S.G. 1B1.10. See also United States v. Higgs, 504 F.3d 456 (3rd Cir. 2007), citing U.S. v. Ross, 245 F.3d 577, 586 (6th Cir. 2001).
- 17.) This Court has the authority to modify the petitioner's sentence pursuant to 3582(c) as a result of Amendment 782. And because petitioner's sentencing guideline range was subsequently lowered, under 18 U.S.C. 3553 this Court can consider petitioner's post-sentencing conduct and depart beyond the new applicable guideline.

- 18.) At the present, petitioner is eligible for a sentence reduction "based on" a sentencing range that has been substantially lowered by retroactive application.
- 19.) Under Section 3553(a) this Court is free to consider petitioner's conduct during his post-incarceration, a factor that the Court had no authority to consider prior to the enactment of Amendment 782.
- 20.) In addition, if this Court determines that petitioner is eligible for the Amendment 782 reduction, petitioner request that the Court appoint counsel to assist petitioner in the remainder of these proceedings.
- 21.) Accordingly, because petitioner has presently served 39 months of his 79 month sentence with model pre- and post-sentencing conduct, where petitioner only has 40 months remaining, this Court should grant petitioner an additional reduction based on 3553(a), and sentence petitioner to time served, and order petitioner immediately released. Or, in the alternative, immediately eligible for halfway house placement.
- 22.) Notably, petitioner has a strong supportive family foundation supporting him. And through his hard work while incarcerated, he has regained the trust of his family and friends. For example, petitioner's family has provided letters for petitioner to submit to the Court expressing how they have recognized petitioner's productive growth and development throughout his incarceration. Likewise, petitioner's life long friends and new acquaintances have recognized that petitioner has corrected his past dysfunctional behavior. As a result, Petitioner's family and friends have taken the initiative to secure an offer of employment for petitioner upon release. A consideration petitioner humble request the Court to consider. On a personal note, petitioner has recognized how important it is for petitioner to be a positive part of his impressionable child's life. A responsibility petitioner recognizes that he owes his child. The decency of being a good roll model and peer.
- 23.) Therefore, in light of Amendment 782, this Court should grant petitioner's motion and credit the two-level reduction, and further consider petitioner's post-sentencing conduct.

CONCLUSION

WHEREFORE, it is the prayers of this humble petitioner that this Honorable Court Grant him a reduction under Amendment 782. In addition, petitioner prays the Court considers post-sentencing factors and further reduce petitioner's sentence significantly lower, to wit: time served, and all other relief this Honorable Court deems just and proper in the premise.

Respectfully submitted,

Name: Richard Tafoya Reg.# 40612-051 Address: FCI Pollock P.O. Box 4050 Pollock, LA. 71467

DECLARATION OF PETITIONER

I, Richard Tafoya, HEREBY DECLARE, under the penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed this 18th day of

February, 2015.

Name: Richard Tafoya Reg.# 40612-051 Address: FCI Pollock P.O. Box 4050 Pollock, LA. 71467

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Richard Tafoya, HEREBY CERTIFY, under the penalty of perjury that a copy of the foregoing Amendment 782 Two-Level Reduction Motion, has been mailed to the below address, by placing said package in the Mailbox this 18 day of February, 2015.

Government's Address:

United States Counthonse

333 LOMAS BLVD N.W.

Suite 270

Albuquerque, NM. 87102

Name Richard Tafoya

Reg.#40612-051

Address: FCI Pollock

P.O. Box 4050

Pollock, LA. 71467

POM63

INMATE EDUCATION DATA

02-05-2015

PAGE 001 OF 001 *

TRANSCRIPT

14:14:58

NAME..: TAFOYA

FUNC: PRT

REGISTER NO: 40612-051 FORMAT....: TRANSCRIPT RSP OF: POM-POLLOCK MED FCI

	-		EDUCATION	INFORMATION			
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		EDUCATION (COURSES					
SUB	-FACL	DESCRIPTION	START DATE	STOP DATE	EVNT	AC	LV	HRS
POM		BASIC MATH SKILLS (REFRESHER)	11-11-2014	CURRENT				
POM		ADVANC MATH SKILLS (REFRESHER)	11-11-2014	CURRENT				
POM		WORLD WAR 2	01-27-2015	CURRENT				
POM		RPP2 RESUME PRE-RELEASE	01-11-2015	01-22-2015	P	С	P	4
POM		RPP 2: JOB INTERVIEW SKILLS	01-18-2015	01-19-2015	P	С	P	2
POM		COMMERCIAL DRIVES LICENSE/ACE	09-08-2014	11-20-2014	P	С	P	18
POM		RPP6 DRUG EDUCATION	09-04-2014	09-26-2014	P	С	P	13
FLP		EVERYDAY GRAMMAR: PUNCTUATION	06-13-2014	06-24-2014	P	С	P	1
FLP		STRESS MANAGEMENT FOR PARENTS	05-09-2014	05-22-2014	P	С.	P	1
FLP		HISTORY OF THE WORLD PART 1	05-20-2014	05-21-2014	P	C	P	9
FLP		COMMUNICATION EFFECTIVE PARENT	04-01-2014	04-15-2014	P	C	P	1
FLP		HOW TO READ FOOD LABELS	04-11-2014	04-11-2014	P	С	P	1
FLP		COMMONLY CONFUSED WORDS	03-27-2014	04-11-2014	P	С	P	1
FLP		SOC SEC BENEFITS FOR REENTRY	03-27-2014	04-11-2014	P	C	P	, 1
FLP		BUILD YOUR CHILD'S SELF-ESTEEM	03-27-2014	04-11-2014	P	C	P	1
FLP		THE OLYMPIC GAMES	03-14-2014	03-26-2014	P	С	P	1
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BAS	DRUG	SCIENTIFIC ABDOMINALS CLASS	10-04-2010	12-21-2010	Ρ.	C	P	33
BAS	DRUG	RELEASE REQUIREMENTS	08-18-2010	08-18-2010	P	С	P	1
BAS	DRUG	RELAPSE PREVENTION CLASS	08-18-2010	08-18-2010	P	С	\mathbf{P}	1
BAS	DRUG	BUDGET CLASS	08-18-2010	08-18-2010	Þ	С	Ρ	1
BAS	DRUG	HOLISTIC MEDICINE	08-18-2010	08-18-2010	P	С	Р	1
BAS	DRUG	COMMUNITY RESOURCES	08-18-2010	08-18-2010	P	C	Р	1
BAS	DRUG	EMPL PREP MODIFIED	08-18-2010	08-18-2010	P	C	P	1
BAS	DRUG	INTRODUCTION TO REAL ESTATE	07-02-2010	08-20-2010	P	С	P	14
BAS		9-BALL RULES COURSE	06-06-2010	06-06-2010	P	C	P	2

PPG6

POM63 606.00 * MALE CUSTODY CLASSIFICATION FORM

02-05-2015

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13:58:12

(A) IDENTIFYING DATA

REG NO..: 40612-051

FORM DATE: 02-05-2015

ORG: POM

NAME....: TAFOYA, RICHARD

MGTV: NONE

PUB SFTY: NONE

MVED:

(B) BASE SCORING

DETAINER: (0) NONE

SEVERITY.....: (3) MODERATE

MOS REL.: 23

CRIM HIST SCORE: (06) 8 POINTS

ESCAPES.: (0) NONE

VIOLENCE.....: (0) NONE

VOL SURR: (0) N/A

AGE CATEGORY...: (2) 36 THROUGH 54

EDUC LEV: (0) VERFD HS DEGREE/GED DRUG/ALC ABUSE.: (1) <5 YEARS

(C) CUSTODY SCORING

TIME SERVED....: (4) 26-75%

PROG PARTICIPAT: (2) GOOD

LIVING SKILLS...: (2) GOOD

TYPE DISCIP RPT: (5) NONE

FREQ DISCIP RPT.: (3) NONE

FAMILY/COMMUN..: (4) GOOD

--- LEVEL AND CUSTODY SUMMARY ---

BASE CUST VARIANCE SEC TOTAL SCORED LEV MGMT SEC LEVEL CUSTODY CONSIDER

+12 +20

+8

MINIMUM

N/A

DECREASE

INMATE/DESIG FACL LEVEL MISMATCHED, HAVE DSCC ADD A MGTV G5149

G0005 TRANSACTION SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED - CONTINUE PROCESSING IF DESIRED

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08-18-2010 08-18-2010 08-18-2010 12-21-2010 01-30-2011 03-26-2014

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Substance use treatment & monitoring; search procedures; refrain from the use & possession of atcohol & other forms of intoxicants; must not frequent places where alcohol is the primary item for sale BUDGET CLASS RELEASE REQUIREMENTS RELAPSE PREVENTION CLASS

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Payments **Payments**

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Page 1

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ASSESSMENT USDC ASSESSMENT USDC Financial Responsibility Imposed \$100.00 \$300.00 Balance \$250.00 \$0.00 Case No./Court of Jurisdiction 1:08CR00822-003WJ 1:11CR02546-003JP FINANC RESP-PARTICIPATES \$50.00 MONTHLY Assgn/Schedule Payment

Special Parole Term: NOT ENTERED Pending Charges: None known Cim Status: Y Cim Reconciled:

05-16-2013 2 YEARS 5 MONTHS 6 DAYS / 258 / 0 Time Served/Jail Credifinoperative Time Days GCT/EGT/SGT 235/0/0 Days FSGT/WSGT/DGCT 0/0/0 Hearing Date: Hearing Type: Last USPC Action: NOT ENTERED

Mentor Information: Introlling Sentence Information:
Offense(s)Violator Offenses SHTNOM 09 Sentence 3559 PLRA SENTENCE Sentencing Procedure 10 YEARS Supervision Term

Primary Emergency Contact: Release Residence: Felephone: Telephone: Sarah Gallegos, Friend 6820 Mayhille Court N.W. Albuquerque, NM 87120 (505) 550-6752 EVELYN GALLEGOS, FRIEND Release Employer: 2209 DIEGO PLACE ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87105 Contact (505) 550-8580 Telephone: Secondary Emergency Contact: Telephone: [POC] [Address] [Name] [Address] [POC]

Next Review Date:
Next Custody Review Date:
Age/DOB/Sex:
CIM Status: Name: Register Number: Security/Custody: Projected Release: 08-09-2015 01-04-2016 40 / 02-13-1974 / M Y If yes, reconciled: Y TAFOYA, RICHARD 40612-051 MINIMUM/IN 01-07-2017 / GCT REL Driver's License/State: FBI Number: DCDC Number: INS Number: PDID Number: Other IDs: Telephone: 081080351 / NM 484710CB0 POLLOCK MED FCI P.O. BOX 3000 POLLOCK, LA 71467 (318) 765-4400

institution:

INMATE SKILLS DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Federal Bureau of Prisons Current Program Review: 02-05-2015

DNA Required: Treaty Transfer Case:

Y - 06-25-2010 N

Profile Comments:

USPO Sentencing: Subject to 18 U.S.C. 4042(B) Notification:

Conviction for a drug trafficking crime (federat) Phone/Fax:

Margaret Vigil, Chief
19; New Mexico Probation Office
Pete V. Domenici United States Courthouse
331 Lomas Boulevard, N.W. Room 170
Albuquerque, NM 87 102
Abtuquerque, ST 505-348-2500 / 505-348-2500

INMATE SKILLS DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Phone/Fax:

USPO Relocation:

[POC]
[District]
[Street Address/Suite]
[City], [State] [Zip]
[Phone] / [Fax]

PROGRAM REVIEW: 02-05-2015

BUILD YOUR CHILD'S SELF-ESTEEM SOC SEC BENEFITS FOR REENTRY **EVERYDAY GRAMMAR: PUNCTUATION** COMMERCIAL DRIVES LICENSE/ACE RPP 2: JOB INTERVIEW SKILLS COMMONLY CONFUSED WORDS COMMUNICATION EFFECTIVE PARENT STRESS MANAGEMENT FOR PARENTS RPP6 DRUG EDUCATION RPP2 RESUME PRE-RELEASE COMPLETED EDUCATION COURSES. HOW TO READ FOOD LABELS HISTORY OF THE WORLD PART 1 DUCATION DATA Facility POM POM Po M POM POM ACE BSCMTH Assignment ACE MATHII ACE WW2 GED HAS ESL HAS ADVANC MATH SKILLS (REFRESHER) BASIC MATH SKILLS (REFRESHER) COMPLETED GED OR HS DIPLOMA **ENGLISH PROFICIENT** WORLD WAR 2 04-11-2014 04-11-2014 04-11-2014 04-11-2014 04-15-2014 05-21-2014 05-22-2014 06-24-2014 09-26-2014 11-20-2014 01-19-2015 01-22-2015 11-11-2014 11-11-2014 CURRENT 01-27-2015 CURRENT 06-09-2010 CURRENT 06-09-2010 CURRENT Start Date CURRENT Stop Date Course Hours ಭ 8 N 4 9

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9-BALL RULES COURSE	06-06-2010	2
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Department of Justice
INMATE SKILLS DEVELOPMENT PLAN

NO PAPER

NO PAPER MEDICAL RECORD

06-04-2010 CURRENT

RegNo: 40612-051

Name: TAFOYA, RICHARD

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Honorable Judge

Thank you for reading this letter. I am Felicia Tafoya. I'm writing this letter because my dad Richard Tafoya. I know he has made mistakes about stuff but, he was really trying to make a better like for us and for himself too. Ii just want you to see my dad as human being and not a criminal. All humans make mistakes in life. I understand my dad had made a few mistakes, but we need our dad here with us. When he first left I was 10 and now I'm 14. And I don't want my dad to miss anymore of my life then he already has of mine and my little brother. Me, and my little brother need him and it's so hard for us now that he has been torn out of our lives again. Thank you again for reading my letter. Just please consider on giving my dad Richard Tafoya another chance. Thank you so very much of your time.

Honorable Judge

Hello my name is Evelyn Gallegos and I'm writing in regards of Richard Tafoya. As a child and young adult Richard was always so caring. Family life was a big part of his life. Richard is a good father and has always been close to his family and he is loving son. He is always willing to help with any task at hand. He enjoys family gatherings and sharing that with his children. Richard is easy going and gets along with others. Since being incarcerated he has had time to think of what has incurred in his life. His hope for future is to use what he has learned so he can be able to be released as a productive individual. Thank you for taking the time to read this letter.

Sincerely,

Evelyn Gallegos

Mother of Richard Tafoya

To the preciding Judge, In the case for Richard N. Infoga I am alex Tajoya fother of Kichard Soga mysou has keen insarsated for some Time how. WI am asking that you would take into Consideration of the Rolf of Richard Tajoya, to see if maybe the Could somehow get out early I realize that he made a mistake but some of us all do. He has been studying to be a paralegal, while his been incarsarated and he enjoys all that he has leakned. He's really concerned about his family it's been a long time he warries alat, Cause he court do anything where he's at. I believe that my son would do alot better once his out cause his determined to have a letter life, and taking care of his family,

To whom this may concern,

I mathida a. Gonzales am writing this letter on behalf of Richard Tafoya. I have corresponded by mail and speak occasionally by phone. I believe Richard has utilized his time to the best of his ability. He has a cquired his commercial Drivers Libense permit, while being encarcerated. You his release mr. Tafoya plans to complete and obtain a class a CDL. He has also enrolled when allowed into other classes that when allowed into other classes that will be useful in obtaining a job and Or a Career. During this time, that we've been intouch, it is my opinion that Mr. Tatoya has been hambled and come to realize the best blessing and achievments in life come through hand honest work. He has also come to under-Stand that a change in surroundings and a positive atmosphere is important to his success as a man, son, active member of society & most important his role as a father to his children. I be-Lieve that Mr. Tafoira has acquired the personal goals and the Life skills in which he will use to succeed.

Mathilda a Donzales

To whom it may concern:

I would be willing to visit with Mr. Richard Tafoya about a possibility of a job position once he is available.

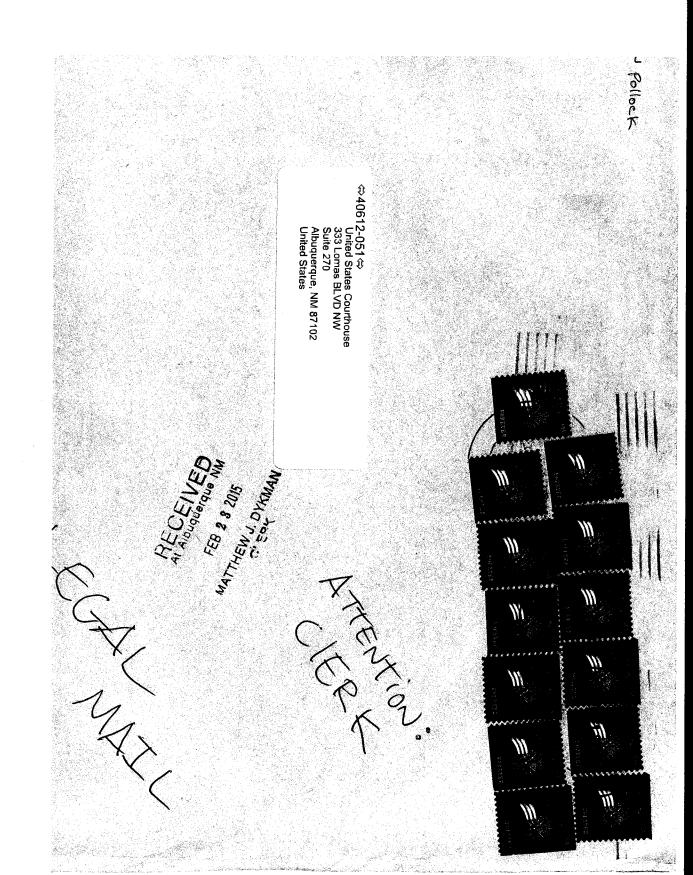
Thank you,

Jeremy Skinner

Mud Dispatcher

AND WORKING MARD IS the only want to live

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POLLOCK, LA

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